

## The Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## House Natural Resources Chairman Raúl M. Grijalva to hold public forum for Navajo uranium miners in Window Rock

WINDOW ROCK — On Monday, U.S. Rep. Chair Raúl M. Grijalva (D-Ariz.), Chairman of the U.S. House Natural Resources Committee, announced that he will host a forum on Wednesday, Oct. 2 at 9:00 a.m. at the Department of Diné Education in Window Rock, Ariz. to hear from former Navajo uranium workers, health workers, and the general public on the impacts of uranium mining on the Navajo Nation.

Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and members of the 24th Navajo Nation Council will also provide statements during the forum.

"The Office of the President and Vice President and Council Delegate Amber Kanazbah Crotty have supported uranium mine workers in their efforts to advocate for uranium issues at the federal level. We have gone to the Capitol Hill with uranium miners and their families to have their voices heard, so this forum is a win for them," said President Nez. "We are very thankful to Chairman Grijalva for hearing our voices and we look forward to this meaningful and long-awaited forum."

PHOTO: Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and U.S. Rep. Chair Raúl M. Grijalva (D-Ariz.) in Washington, D.C.

What: Forum with Navajo uranium miners

Where: Navajo Education Center, 1 Morgan Blvd.

• Window Rock, Ariz.

When: Oct. 2 at 9:00 a.m.

## Panelists:

- Navajo uranium miners and family members
- Members of the community
- Health care

"I met a Navajo uranium miner this summer and was moved by the strength it took to travel to the Capitol because of the health effects he still experiences. This forum will be an opportunity for me to listen to the Navajo community directly about uranium's role in their past, present and future. Far too often, Congress only listens to the administrative or industry perspective. This is a time to hear the Indigenous perspective," stated Chairman Grijalva in a press release issued by his office on Monday.

Vice President Myron Lizer also offered his appreciation to Chairman Grijalva and asked former uranium workers to make every effort to attend and let their voices be heard.

"It's a historic opportunity for our Navajo people to share their stories in order to continue the push for certain laws such as the reauthorization of the Radiation Exposure and Compensation Act and the push for benefits for downwinders and others that were harmed by uranium development," added Vice President Lizer.

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